

CLAIMS

1. A prefastened absorbent article comprising:
 - (a) a back waist portion having an inner surface, a fibrous outer surface and two lateral ends,
 - (b) a front waist portion having an inner surface, an outer fibrous surface and two lateral ends, wherein each one of said lateral ends of said back waist portion is disposed adjacent and spaced apart in relation to one of said two lateral ends of said front waist portion,
 - (c) a first prefolded nonwoven connector connecting one end of said two lateral ends of said back waist portion to the adjacent lateral end of said front waist portion,
 - (d) a second prefolded nonwoven connector connecting the other lateral end of said back waist portion to the other adjacent end on said front waist portion,
 - (e) a hook fastener strip prefastened to at least one of said nonwoven connectors,

wherein said prefastened hook is preengaged with the outer fibrous surface of the front waist region.
2. An absorbent article as in claim 1 comprising four side seals, two permanent side seals, one of said permanent side seals formed by sealing said first nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said back waist portion, and the other permanent seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of the said back portion, and two peelable side seals, one of said peelable side seals formed by sealing said front nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said front waist portion and the other peelable side seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of said front waist portion.

3. An absorbent article as in claim 1 wherein at least one of said waist portions is partly elasticated.
4. An absorbent article as in claim 2 wherein at least one of said waist portions is partly elasticated.
5. An absorbent article as in claim 1 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
6. An absorbent article as in claim 2 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
7. An absorbent article as in claim 3 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
8. An absorbent article as in claim 4 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
9. An absorbent article as in claim 5 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
10. An absorbent article as in claim 6 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
11. An absorbent article as in claim 1 wherein said nonwoven connectors folds are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
12. An absorbent article as in claim 2 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

13. An absorbent article as in claim 3 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
14. An absorbent article as in claim 4 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
15. An absorbent article as in claim 5 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
16. An absorbent article as in claim 6 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
17. An absorbent article as in claim 7 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
18. An absorbent article as in claim 8 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
19. An absorbent article as in claim 9 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
20. An absorbent article as in claim 10 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
21. An absorbent article as in claim 11 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
22. An absorbent article as in claim 12 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

23. A prefastened absorbent article comprising:

- (a) a back waist portion having an inner surface, a fibrous outer surface and two lateral ends,
- (b) a front waist portion having an inner surface, an outer fibrous surface and two lateral ends, wherein each one of said lateral ends of said back waist portion is disposed adjacent and spaced apart in relation to one of said two lateral ends of said front waist portion,
- (c) a first prefolded nonwoven connector connecting one end of said two lateral ends of said back waist portion to the adjacent lateral end of said front waist portion,
- (d) a second prefolded nonwoven connector connecting the other lateral end of said back waist portion to the other adjacent end on said front waist portion,
- (e) a loop fastener on at least one of said front waist outer surface lateral ends,
- (f) a hook fastener strip prefastened to at least one of said nonwoven connectors,

wherein said prefastened hook is preengaged with the said loop fastener.

24. An absorbent article as in claim 23 comprising four side seals, two permanent side seals, one of said permanent side seals formed by sealing said first nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said back waist portion, and the other permanent seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of the said back portion, and two peelable side seals, one of said peelable side seals formed by sealing said front nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said front waist portion and the other peelable side seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of said front waist portion.

25. An absorbent article as in claim 23 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.
26. An absorbent article as in claim 24 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.
27. An absorbent article as in claim 23 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
28. An absorbent article as in claim 24 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
29. An absorbent article as in claim 25 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
30. An absorbent article as in claim 26 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
31. An absorbent article as in claim 27 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
32. An absorbent article as in claim 28 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
33. An absorbent article as in claim 23 wherein said nonwoven connectors folds are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
34. An absorbent article as in claim 24 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

35. An absorbent article as in claim 25 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
36. An absorbent article as in claim 26 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
37. An absorbent article as in claim 27 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
38. An absorbent article as in claim 28 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
39. An absorbent article as in claim 29 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
40. An absorbent article as in claim 30 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
41. An absorbent article as in claim 31 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
42. An absorbent article as in claim 32 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
43. An absorbent article as in claim 33 wherein said nonwoven connectors are secured by a securement means.
44. An absorbent article as in claim 34 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

45. A prefastened absorbent article comprising:

- (a) a back waist portion having an inner surface, a fibrous outer surface and two lateral ends,
- (b) a front waist portion having an inner surface, an outer fibrous surface and two lateral ends, wherein each one of said lateral ends of said back waist portion is disposed adjacent and spaced apart in relation to one of said two lateral ends of said front waist portion, wherein said front and back lateral edges are folded over said top surface of said article,
- (c) a first prefolded nonwoven connector connecting one end of said two lateral ends of said back waist portion to the adjacent lateral end of said front waist portion,
- (d) a second prefolded nonwoven connector connecting the other lateral end of said back waist portion to the other adjacent end on said front waist portion,
- (e) a loop fastener on at least one of said front waist outer surface lateral ends,
- (f) a hook fastener strip prefastened to at least one of said nonwoven connectors,

wherein said prefastened hook is preengaged with said loop fastener.

46. An absorbent article as in claim 45 comprising four side seals, two permanent side seals, one of said permanent side seals formed by sealing said first nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said back waist portion, and the other permanent seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of the said back portion, and two peelable side seals, one of said peelable side seals formed by sealing said front nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said front waist portion and the other peelable side seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of said front waist portion.

47. An absorbent article as in claim 45 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.
48. An absorbent article as in claim 46 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.
49. An absorbent article as in claim 45 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
50. An absorbent article as in claim 46 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
51. An absorbent article as in claim 47 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
52. An absorbent article as in claim 48 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
53. An absorbent article as in claim 49 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
54. An absorbent article as in claim 50 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
55. An absorbent article as in claim 45 wherein said nonwoven connectors folds are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
56. An absorbent article as in claim 46 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

57. An absorbent article as in claim 47 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
58. An absorbent article as in claim 48 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
59. An absorbent article as in claim 49 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
60. An absorbent article as in claim 50 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
61. An absorbent article as in claim 51 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
62. An absorbent article as in claim 52 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
63. An absorbent article as in claim 53 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
64. An absorbent article as in claim 54 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
65. An absorbent article as in claim 55 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
66. An absorbent article as in claim 56 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

67. A prefastened absorbent article comprising:

- (a) a back waist portion having an inner surface, a fibrous outer surface and two lateral ends,
- (b) a front waist portion having an inner surface, an outer fibrous surface and two lateral ends, wherein each one of said lateral ends of said back waist portion is disposed adjacent and spaced apart in relation to one of said two lateral ends of said front waist portion, wherein said front and back lateral edges are folded over said top surface of said article,
- (c) a first prefolded nonwoven connector connecting one end of said two lateral ends of said back waist portion to the adjacent lateral end of said front waist portion,
- (d) a second prefolded nonwoven connector connecting the other lateral end of said back waist portion to the other adjacent end on said front waist portion,
- (e) a loop fastener on at least one of said front waist outer surface lateral ends,
- (f) a hook fastener strip prefastened to at least one of said nonwoven connectors,

wherein said prefastened hook is preengaged with said loop fastener.

68. An absorbent article as in claim 67 comprising four side seals, two permanent side seals, one of said permanent side seals formed by sealing said first nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said back waist portion, and the other permanent seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of the said back portion, and two peelable side seals, one of said peelable side seals formed by sealing said front nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said front waist portion and the other peelable side seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of said front waist portion.

69. An absorbent article as in claim 67 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.

70. An absorbent article as in claim 68 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.

71. An absorbent article as in claim 67 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.

72. An absorbent article as in claim 68 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.

73. An absorbent article as in claim 69 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.

74. An absorbent article as in claim 70 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.

75. An absorbent article as in claim 71 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.

76. An absorbent article as in claim 72 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.

77. An absorbent article as in claim 67 wherein said nonwoven connectors folds are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

78. An absorbent article as in claim 68 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

79. An absorbent article as in claim 69 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
80. An absorbent article as in claim 70 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
81. An absorbent article as in claim 71 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
82. An absorbent article as in claim 72 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
83. An absorbent article as in claim 73 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
84. An absorbent article as in claim 74 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
85. An absorbent article as in claim 75 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
86. An absorbent article as in claim 76 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
87. An absorbent article as in claim 77 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
88. An absorbent article as in claim 78 wherein said nonwoven connectors are secured by a securement means.

89. A prefastened absorbent article comprising:

- (a) a back waist portion having an inner surface, a fibrous outer surface and two lateral ends,
- (b) a front waist portion having an inner surface, an outer fibrous surface and two lateral ends, wherein each one of said lateral ends of said back waist portion is disposed adjacent and spaced apart in relation to one of said two lateral ends of said front waist portion, wherein said front and back lateral edges are folded over said top surface of said article, and secured in place by a securing means,
- (c) a first prefolded nonwoven connector connecting one end of said two lateral ends of said back waist portion to the adjacent lateral end of said front waist portion,
- (d) a second prefolded nonwoven connector connecting the other lateral end of said back waist portion to the other adjacent end on said front waist portion,
- (e) a loop fastener on at least one of said front waist outer surface lateral ends,
- (f) a hook fastener strip prefastened to at least one of said nonwoven connectors,

wherein said prefastened hook is preengaged with the said loop fastener.

90. An absorbent article as in claim 89 comprising four side seals, two permanent side seals, one of said permanent side seals formed by sealing said first nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said back waist portion, and the other permanent seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of the said back portion, and two peelable side seals, one of said peelable side seals formed by sealing said front nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said front waist portion and the other peelable side seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of said front waist portion.

91. An absorbent article as in claim 89 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.
92. An absorbent article as in claim 90 wherein at least one of said waist portion is partly elasticated.
93. An absorbent article as in claim 89 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
94. An absorbent article as in claim 90 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
95. An absorbent article as in claim 91 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
96. An absorbent article as in claim 92 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
97. An absorbent article as in claim 93 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
98. An absorbent article as in claim 94 wherein each of said nonwoven connectors is folded n times wherein n is an even integer of 2 to 30.
99. An absorbent article as in claim 89 wherein said nonwoven connectors folds are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
100. An absorbent article as in claim 90 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

101. An absorbent article as in claim 91 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
102. An absorbent article as in claim 92 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
103. An absorbent article as in claim 93 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
104. An absorbent article as in claim 94 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
105. An absorbent article as in claim 95 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
106. An absorbent article as in claim 96 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
107. An absorbent article as in claim 97 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
108. An absorbent article as in claim 98 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
109. An absorbent article as in claim 99 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.
110. An absorbent article as in claim 100 wherein said nonwoven connectors are releasably secured to each other by a securement means.

111. A prefastened absorbent article as in claims 1, 23, 45, 67 or 89 wherein each nonwoven connector comprises a weakened line.

112. A prefastened absorbent article as in claim 45 wherein said front and back lateral edges are folded over and partly releasably attached to said top surface of said article.

113. A prefastened absorbent article as in claim 67 wherein said front and back lateral edges are folded over and partly releasably attached to said top surface of said article.

114. A prefastened absorbent article as in claim 89 wherein said front and back lateral edges are folded over and partly releasably attached to said top surface of said article.

115. An absorbent article comprising:

- (a) a back waist portion having an inner surface, a fibrous outer surface and two lateral ends,
- (b) a front waist portion having an inner surface, an outer fibrous surface and two lateral ends, wherein each one of said lateral ends of said back waist portion is disposed adjacent and spaced apart in relation to one of said two lateral ends of said front waist portion,
- (c) a first nonwoven connector connecting one end of said two lateral ends of said back waist portion to the adjacent lateral end of said front waist portion,
- (d) a second nonwoven connector connecting the other lateral end of said back waist portion to the other adjacent end on said front waist portion,
- (e) a hook fastener strip prefastened to at least one of said nonwoven connectors,

wherein said hooks are engageable with the outer fibrous surface of said front waist region.

116. An absorbent article as in claim 1 comprising four side seals, two permanent side seals, one of said permanent side seals formed by sealing said first nonwoven connector to a lateral edge of said back waist portion, and the other permanent seal formed by sealing said second nonwoven connector to the other lateral edge of the said back portion.